

13 DAY CULTURAL TOUR

TREASURES OF BHUTAN & NEPAL

\$4499

PER
PERSON
TWIN
SHARE

TYPICALLY ~~\$7499~~

KATHMANDU • PARO • PUNAKHA • THIMPHU

THE OFFER

The sweet scent of incense in the air, a distant echo of a monastery bell; Bhutan and Nepal are two bucket list destinations where the extraordinary can be found in the every day. From richly adorned temples and monasteries to flag-covered stupas, rowdy city streets to quiet mountain villages, each step in these remarkable countries has the power to inspire, surprise, delight and transform.

Experience the diverse beauty, history, spirituality and culture of Bhutan and Nepal on this 13 day journey visiting Kathmandu, Paro, Thimphu, Punakha and beyond. Wander the fragrant streets and marketplaces of vibrant Kathmandu, trek to the remote Tiger's Nest Monastery, take in stunning views of the Paro Valley from Buddha Point, admire the traditional Bhutanese architecture of Gangtey Monastery, travel through the majestic Dochula Pass and so much more. If you've ever dreamed of exploring these spiritual meccas, this once-in-a-lifetime tour with return flights, 11 nights hotel accommodation, 27 meals, English-speaking guides and more will make it easy.

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*Please note: all information provided in this brochure is subject to both change and availability. Prior to purchase please check the current live deal at www.tripadeal.com.au or contact our customer service team on 135 777 for the most up-to-date information. If you have already purchased this deal, the terms and conditions on your Purchase Confirmation apply and take precedence over the information in this brochure.



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THE ITINERARY

Day 1 Australia - Kathmandu, Nepal

Fly today from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth. On arrival into Kathmandu, be meet at the airport and transferred to your hotel. Fly with either Cathay Pacific, Singapore Airlines, Emirates or Thai Airlines to name a few (subject to availability).

Please note: due to flight scheduling and availability, some departures may occur on day 0. Affected customers must be at the airport the night before. Flight times will be indicated on your final documents at least 6 weeks prior to departure.

Overnight: Fairfield by Marriott Hotel or similar
Meals included: In-Flight

Day 2 Kathmandu

After breakfast this morning experience a full day sightseeing tour of fascinating Kathmandu, including visits to Swayambhunath Stupa (Monkey Temple), Kathmandu Durbar Square and Patan Durbar Square. Afterwards take an optional Mount Everest scenic flight in the afternoon (not included).

Overnight: Fairfield by Marriott Hotel or similar
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3 Kathmandu - Paro - Thimphu, Bhutan

In the morning, check out and transfer to Kathmandu International Airport for the flight to Paro. Upon arrival into Paro, the tour transfers on to Thimphu (approx. 55km). On the way enjoy a scenic stop at the confluence of the Thimpu and Paro rivers and to see Tachogang Lhakhang Temple. Upon arrival into Thimphu, experience a traditional welcome with 'Tashi Khaddar' and later visit the Bhutanese political and religious centre Trashi Chhoe Dzong (Fortress of the Glorious Religion) and Buddha Point (Kuensel Phodrang), with its immense golden statue of Buddha and panoramic view over the valley.

Overnight: Namgay Heritage Hotel or similar
Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 4 Thimphu

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before a visit to the National Library, the Institute for Zorig Chusum (Bhutanese art and craft) and Textile & Folk Heritage Museums. Enjoy a cooking demonstration at a local restaurant followed by lunch. In the afternoon, visit the King's Memorial Chorten (stupa), continuously populated by locals walking the perimeter, spinning ornate prayer wheels and praying mantras. This evening enjoy strolling with your guide through the Handicrafts Emporium, Thimphu Main Street and Local Crafts Bazaar.

Overnight: Namgay Heritage Hotel or similar
Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 5 Thimphu - Gangtey (approx. 150 km)

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before setting off to Gangtey through Dochula Pass (3,080m). The view at the highest point is stunning and several impressive mountain peaks can be seen if the sky is clear. This evening, enjoy time to explore Gangtey Village and Monastery.

Overnight: Hotel Dewachen or similar
Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 6 Gangtey

After breakfast, visit Gangtey Goempa (Monastery), this impressive structure has been meticulously restored by the local community. Later, explore Phobjikha Valley and visit the renowned Black Neck Crane Information Centre.

Overnight: Hotel Dewachen or similar
Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 7 Gangtey to Punakha (approx. 75km)

After breakfast, enjoy a scenic drive to Punakha through Wangdue Phodrang town. Afterwards, enjoy the evening at leisure to relax or explore on your own.

Overnight: RKPO Green Resort or similar

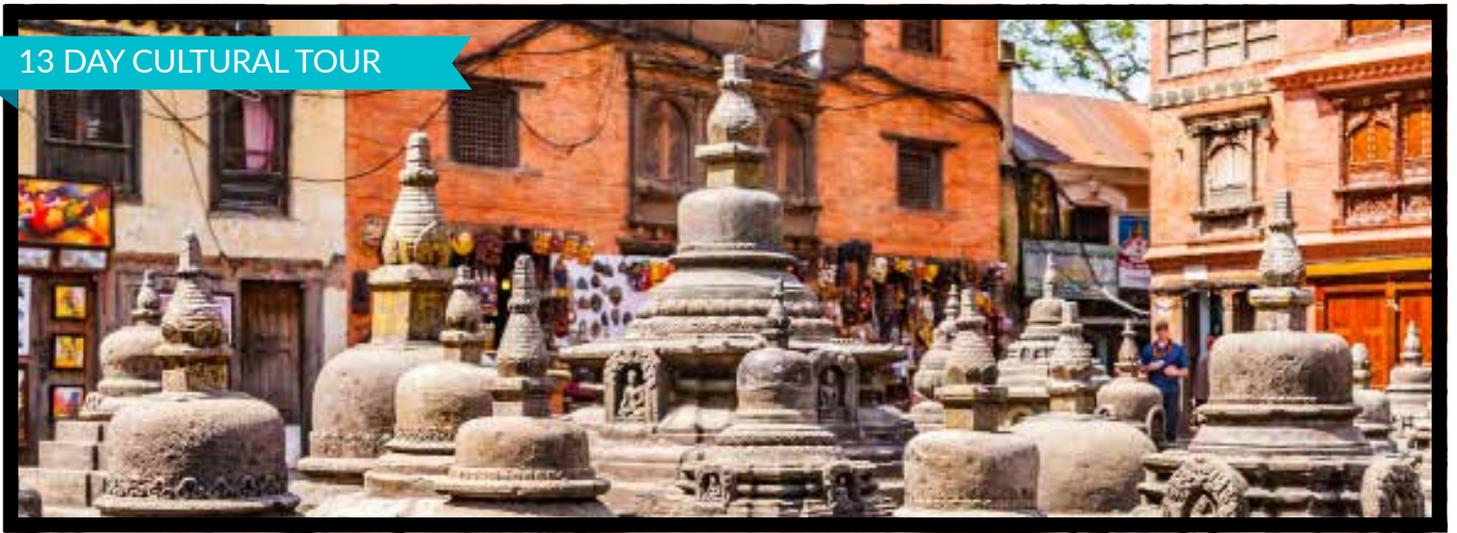


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Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 8 Punakha

This morning, visit beautiful Punakha Dzong, one of the most impressive fortress style monasteries in the country. Later visit a traditional farmhouse for tea and snacks. In the evening explore the charming villages around Punakha.

Overnight: RKPO Green Resort or similar

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 9 Punakha to Paro (approx. 120km)

After breakfast, enjoy an excursion to Chimi Lhakhang, the Temple of Fertility, built in 1499. Later drive back to Paro through Dochula. This evening, visit Ta Dzong and Rinpung Dzong, another outstanding example of traditional Bhutanese architecture, constructed entirely without nails.

Overnight: Raven's Nest Hotel or similar

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 10 Paro

Today, visit famous Taktsang Monastery; 'Tiger's Nest'. A pilgrimage site for all Bhutanese, this revered monastery is dramatically positioned on a cliffside in the Paro Valley. The steep walk takes up to 5 hours and the ascent can be partially travelled on horseback (not included). For those who do not wish to complete the full walk, a tea house is located part way up, allowing you to wait for the group. The views throughout the hike are outstanding. Later visit the ruins of Drukgyel Dzong fortress and Kyichu Lhakhang, a lovely temple. This evening enjoy Traditional Mask Dance and Cultural Show.

Overnight: Raven's Nest Hotel or similar

Meals included: Breakfast;Lunch;Dinner

Day 11 Paro - Kathmandu - Australia

Check out this morning and be transferred to Paro airport for your flight to Kathmandu where you will be transferred to your hotel. Enjoy free time to further explore the streets, squares

and markets of Kathmandu. Later, visit the holy Hindu temple Pashupatinath and Buddhist Stupa Boudhanath.

Overnight: Fairfield by Marriott Hotel or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12 Kathmandu, Nepal - Australia

Check out this morning and be transferred to the Kathmandu Airport for your return flight back to Australia.

Meals included: Breakfast;In-Flight

Day 13 Arrive in Australia



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TOUR INCLUSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Himalayan bucket list countries Nepal and Bhutan
- Tour ancient Hindu temples and Buddhist stupas in Kathmandu
- Wander the fragrant alleys surrounding Thamel and Kathmandu Durbar Square
- Bargain over prayer beads, incense, rustic mementos and high quality winter wear
- Observe the lush Paro Valley from the vantage point of 'Buddha Point'
- Enjoy a local lunch and Bhutanese local cooking demonstration
- Travel through Dochula Pass, surrounded by Himalayan peaks
- Experience the famous hospitality of Bhutan
- Explore Thimphu on a sightseeing tour
- Visit Gangtey Goempa to admire traditional Bhutanese architecture and construction
- Trek to the sacred Tiger's Nest Buddhist Monastery

FLIGHTS

- Return international flights (economy class) departing SYD/MEL/BNE/ADL/PER
- Return international flights (economy class) from Kathmandu, Nepal to Paro, Bhutan

ACCOMMODATION

- 11 nights hotel accommodation

DINING

- Enjoy 27 meals, including all meals in Bhutan

TOUR ESSENTIALS

- Bhutanese visa fee and tourist tax
- English-speaking local guides
- Sightseeing and monument entry fees
- Airlines taxes and surcharges

TRANSPORT

- Transportation by private A/C vehicles

TRANSFERS

- Return airport transfers in Kathmandu and Paro



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BOOKING INFORMATION

After purchase, you will receive a receipt and a Purchase Confirmation, directing you to an online Passenger Information Form. The Passenger Information Form must be completed within 72 hours of purchase.

Any special requests, preferences and optional extras MUST be clearly stated in your Passenger Information Form. Any change requested after submitting your Passenger Information Form cannot be guaranteed, is strictly subject to availability and will incur surcharges as outlined in the Schedule of Fees below.

On purchasing this Travel Offer you are bound by the General Terms and Conditions, in addition to the specific terms and conditions outlined in this Important Information.

Please note: all additional charges are payable direct to your Travel Consultant in AUD (unless otherwise stated).

OFFER ESSENTIALS

Travel offer is valid for travel on selected dates until the 16th July 2019.

This travel offer is priced for one person based on twin share.

Single Traveller Supplement

For solo travellers a mandatory single supplement of \$1699 applies.

Departure Dates (2019)

Please see the TripADeal website for current departure dates.

Surcharges

Please note: dates/months with a * incur a high season surcharge of \$250 per person.

Departure Cities

Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth

FLIGHTS

Full Service Airline(s) Used

Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, Cathay Pacific, China Southern, China Eastern, Malindo Airways, Sri Lankan Airlines, Emirates, Etihad Airways, Virgin Australia, Thai Airways, Air India, Jet Airways and codeshare partners (subject to availability).

Please note: One way flights can not be accommodated. Travellers must take all included flights within the package, and any flights intentionally forfeited will result in later flights being subject to cancellation.

Arrive early in Kathmandu, Nepal

\$200 per person, subject to availability

Please note:

- This fee does not include extra nights accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- No flight booking changes or cancellations permitted after air tickets have been issued.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Stay behind in Kathmandu, Nepal

\$200 per person, subject to availability

Please note:

- This fee does not include extra nights accommodation, meals or airport transfers.
- This fee does however include a flight from Paro, Bhutan to Kathmandu, Nepal. If you wish to forfeit this flight please advise our friendly reservations team so we may secure your return flight back to Australia. Please note, by choosing to forfeit your connecting flight the cost does not change.
- No flight booking changes or cancellations permitted after air tickets have been issued.
- Flight changes are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Stopover Packages

Not Available

Flight Class Upgrades

- Premium Economy: Not Available
- Business Class (Australia – Nepal, Nepal – Australia): Buy now for \$4899 per person

Please note:

- *Starting from quotes will be processed and returned for your consideration.
- All Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are subject to availability (if we are not able to fulfill your business class request the upgrade cost will be refunded).
- On any upgrade purchase, short haul flights and domestic flight sectors are not guaranteed in a Premium or Business cabin; subject to aircraft configuration.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation Used

3-4 Star (self-rated)

Kathmandu: Fairfield by Marriott

Thimpu: Namgay Heritage

Gantey: Hotel Dewachen

Punakha: Kunzhang Zhing

Paro: Raven's Nest

Please note: Accommodation/rooms offered are based on a lead-in room type, and are subject to availability based on seasonality. Properties will be confirmed, no later than two weeks prior to travel.

Extra Nights

- Kathmandu, Nepal (Pre or Post Tour): \$70 per person, per room (Solo traveller: \$140 per room).

Please note:

- Extra nights are based on room only and subject to availability until the time of booking. Airport transfers are not included if you wish to arrive early or stay behind.

Maximum Room Capacity

3 People (subject to availability).

Child Policy

- No child discounts. Full price applies for all children travelling with their parents.
- Valid for Children 12 years old and over.



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Please note: Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult 18 years old and over to travel. No unaccompanied minors allowed.

Triple Share

No discounts apply for 3rd person travelling. Full price applies, subject to availability.

Please note: Triple shares may be required to share existing bedding.

Bedding Configuration

Double or Twin (subject to availability).

Adjoining / Interconnecting Rooms

Subject to availability and at the hotels discretion. Please enquire on booking if you require this option.

GENERAL TOUR INFORMATION

Minimum group size 10, maximum group size 20 per vehicle.

Optional Tours / Activities

- One Hour Everest Scenic Flight: \$250 USD including airport transfers, domestic airport tax and flight ticket.

Please note:

- Prices are based on per person, are subject to availability, time permitting and weather conditions, and are payable direct to the tour operator in the currency specified.
- Some tours require minimum numbers to operate.

EXCLUSIONS

- Visa fees and requirements (Tourist visas for Nepal and Bhutan are a strict requirement if travelling on an Australian passport)
- Meals/beverages not stated in the itinerary (including any specialty restaurants onboard cruise)
- Recommended gratuities/tipping: \$6 AUD per day
- Optional activities/tours
- Personal expenses
- Travel insurance (Mandatory)

Please note: A comprehensive travel Insurance policy must be organised BEFORE all details can be finalised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TOUR GUIDE VS. TOUR LEADER

Tour Guide:

Often locals with intimate knowledge of an area, its culture, and history. Their role entails providing commentary, routing the tour, and seeing that people have a good time. They are a licensed, qualified expert who supplies specific information on history, art, architecture and culture of the city/village/attraction in which he or she is guiding the tour. The guide meets the group at the required place and leaves the group at the end of the tour, they do not travel with the group.

Tour Leader:

An experienced person tasked with ensuring the smooth operation of tours, as well as providing practical support to passengers throughout the whole trip. Their role primarily includes assisting with accommodation, transportation between locations, and communication with tour guides in each stop. A tour leader may provide general guidance around a city or village, and offer information on the place visited on the bus, however they are not required to have specific knowledge on art, architecture, or history. They are not allowed to provide a guided tour or commentary of a city/village/attraction once there and if caught doing so, can be fined.

Please note: Tour leaders/guides are not a standard inclusion in all travel offers. Tour leaders/guides will only be made available when particularly required to enhance the experience of the destination featured.

CLIMATE & AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

Nepal:

June is the hottest month in Kathmandu with an average temperature of 23°C and the coldest is January at 9°C, with the most daily sunshine hours around 12°C in April. The wettest month is July with an average of 325.3mm of rain.

Bhutan:

In Southern Bhutan, the climate is tropical in the monsoon season and may range from 15°C in winter to 30°C in summer. In the high mountain regions the average temperature varies from

0°C in winter to 10°C in summer, with an average of 350mm of rain.

FLIGHTS

Seat Selection & Frequent Flyer Points:

At TripADeal we do not arrange seat selection. It is important to highlight that some Airlines do not allow pre-selected seats. We strongly suggest you contact the Airline directly with seating allocation requirements and or arrive at the airport earlier to arrange your seating. While we do not add frequent flyer member details to bookings, you can do this directly with the Airline once you have your flight information.

Passport Validity:

Customers are required to provide valid passport details either at the time of purchase, or no later than 45 days prior to departure date. Failure to do so may result in cancellation of the booking. In this instance customers will be responsible for any costs and fees incurred.

COACH TOUR

Meals:

27 meals are included in the tour, for all other meals; lunches and dinners the tour leader (when available) will offer assistance with reservations, suggestions and directions to local restaurants. It is your responsibility to notify TripADeal of any dietary requests/requirements. Please note; we will do our best to meet your requests/requirements, however cannot guarantee that we will always be able to.

Luggage:

You will be responsible for all your personal belongings whilst on the tour. With regards to luggage, you must carry your own luggage from the coach to the hotel room and back to the coach. The driver will assist with the uploading and off-loading of the luggage from the coach.

OTHER

Fitness Level Required / Mobility:

Our vehicles are not equipped with wheelchair access, so unfortunately our tours are currently not suitable for



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wheelchair users and those less mobile.

Please note: a general level of fitness will be required. If you have any concerns please consult your healthcare provider prior to purchase/travel.

Gratuities / Tipping:

Gratuities (tips) are not included in the tour price for services of the tour leader (when available) and driver throughout the tour. The recommended tip for the tour leader and driver is \$6 AUD per person per day, which will be collected whilst on tour.

Sightseeing:

Please note: In the event entrance to a site is affected by changes in operating hours or public holiday closures, your itinerary will be adjusted to ensure you do not miss out on the experience.

Shopping:

Shopping overseas can be a daunting and confusing experience, especially when there is a language barrier. Please be very cautious when foreign currencies and prices are involved. If paying by credit card, please pay close attention to the amount you are being charged and keep all of your receipts.

Do not make any purchases you are not comfortable with or feel pressured into. If you are uncertain or need assistance with the language barrier, please seek assistance from your Tour Guide/Leader.

Please refer to our Terms and Conditions in regards to shopping for further information.

VISAS

Nepal:

A tourist visa for Nepal is a strict requirement if travelling on an Australian Passport. This can be arranged on arrival for approximately \$25 USD, valid for 15 days. Visas must be arranged in USD currency at the border with 2 passport sized photos.

Bhutan:

A tourist visa for Bhutan is a strict requirement if travelling on an Australian

Passport. The operator will arrange the tourist visa on your behalf.

Important: Please start arranging your visa at least 3 weeks prior to departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours.

Please note: Passengers who are not Australian citizens must check with the respective consulate or visa agency to determine what their visa requirements are and what personal identification is required. It is also important to note, some areas of employment such as journalism, government authorities and charity organisations may have additional restrictions in applying for Visas. This may in turn affect the type of application required.

INSURANCE

We are proud to offer a range of travel insurance products - please ask your Travel Consultant for more information.

SCHEDULE OF FEES

Voluntary Changes

This includes booking changes requested by you, including but not limited to those changes requiring an airline ticket or a Purchase Confirmation reissue.

- 1st Change - \$100.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.
- 2nd Change - \$150.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.
- Subsequent changes - \$250.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.
- Changes within 30 days of departure \$350.00 person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.
- Changes within 14 days of departure

\$500.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.

Name Changes Due To Passenger Error

· If the incorrect name has been advised to TripADeal, charges of \$150.00 per person + any additional charges applied by the airline/cruise company/accommodation/other travel provider.



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